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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nobumasa SUZUKI et al.

**Mail Stop Missing Parts**

Serial No: 10/659,303

Office of Initial Patent  
Examination Customer Service  
Center

Filed: September 11, 2003

For: VERTEBRA BODY PLATE FOR VERTEBRAL COLUMN FIXING SYSTEM

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

**Mail Stop Missing Parts**

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

Please extend the time for response to the Notice to file Missing Parts dated December 5, 2003 by one month, from February 5, 2004 to March 5, 2004. A check including the amount of \$55.00 is enclosed as payment for the fee.

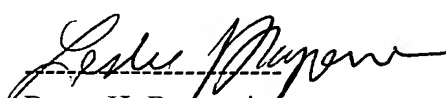
The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

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February 24, 2004  
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